

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-03

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9837

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2865

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC

SUBJ: PROTECTION OF AMERICAN LIVES AND PROPERTY IN TURKISH AREAS

1. WE ARE ENCOUNTERING INCREASING DIFFICULTY IN OUR EFFORTS TO PROTECT AMERICAN LIVES AND PROPERTY LOCATED IN TURKISH OCCUPIED AREAS OF CYPRUS. TURKISH AUTHORITIES REQUIRE 48 HOURS ADVANCE NOTICE OF ANY TRIPS OUTSIDE NICOSIA AND, ESSENTIALLY, HAVE RESTRICTED THESE TO KYRENIA DISTRICT ONLY. ALSO, DESPITE ASSURANCES FROM VP DENKTASH AND TURKISH EMB, MILITARY CONTINUES TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST AMERICANS OF CYPRIOT ORIGIN WHO DO NOT HAVE DUAL CITIZENSHIP EVEN IN GOC EYES) DENYING THEM ACCESS TO THEIR PROPERTY IN TURKISH AREAS.

2. OF GREATER IMPORTANCE, WE HAVE RECEIVED LITTLE RESPONSE TO OUR INQUIRIES ON WELFARE/WHEREABOUTS OF MISSING AMERICAN CITIZENS. WE HAVE SUBMITTED LISTS TO VP'S OFFICE AND TO MINDEF OREK, THUS FAR WITH LITTLE RESULT. ONLY ONE AMERICAN (LUCY SAVVIDES) WAS LOCATED AND BROUGHT TO NICOSIA, WHILE IN ONE OTHER CASE WE HAVE RECEIVED NEGATIVE REPLY TO EFFECT THAT INDIVIDUAL NOT LOCATED IN TURKISH AREA. ALL OTHER INQUIRIES HAVE GONE UNANSWERED.

3. REQUIREMENT FOR 48 HOURS NOTICE, AND DEMAND THAT THIS BE SPECIFIC RE AREA TO BE VISITED, PREVENT US FROM CARRYING OUT OUR STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES. UNLESS WE CAN VISIT OUR CITIZENS FREELY, WE ARE UNABLE ASCERTAIN THEIR NEEDS.

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4. ADDITIONALLY, AMERICAN PROPERTY LOCATED IN TURKISH AREA IS NOT

BEING PROTECTED (DESPITE OUR PROVIDING LISTS TO RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES). VACANT HOUSES HAVE BEEN BROKEN INTO REPEATEDLY (WITH SOME LOOTING) AND AMERICANS LIVING IN AREA REPORT ROBBERY OF OCCUPIED PREMISES AS ROUTINE AFFAIR.

5. PARAS 1-4 ABOVE READ TO TURKISH DCM SEP 4. HE REPLIED THAT HIS AMB HAD RAISED SAME ISSUE WITH GENERAL DEMIREL EARLIER IN DAY. TURK AMB REPORTEDLY "DEMANDED" GREATER FREEDOM FOR FOREIGN DIP PERSONNEL, END TO LOOTING, AND PROTECTION FOREIGN PROPERTY. DCM "EXPECTS" SITUATION IMPROVE IN NEXT FEW DAYS; NOTED GENERAL DEMIREL MOVING HIS HQ FROM BOGAZ TO KYRENIA SPECIFICALLY FOR THIS PURPOSE. DCM, IN EMBOFF'S PRESENCE, TELEPHONED TURK CYPRIOT OFFICIAL

TO DEMAND ANSWER OUR W/W INQUIRIES BY "THIS AFTERNOON".
(WE ARE WAITING.)

6. IF DEPT CONCURS, AND SEPARATELY OR AS PART OF BROADER DEMARCHE ON NEED FOR TURKISH COOPERATION TO STABILIZE SITUATION ON ISLAND, REQUEST STATE OF LOCAL AFFAIRS BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF TURKISH GOVT AND ASSURANCES OBTAINED THAT (A) ALL AMERICANS WILL BE TREATED EQUALLY; (B) AMERICAN PROPERTY WILL BE PROTECTED; AND (C) WE WILL RECEIVE MORE COOPERATION IN LOCATING MISSING PEOPLE. LOCAL CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES (INCLUDING TURK EMB PERSONNEL) ARE SYMPATHETIC TO OUR PROBLEMS BUT SEEM TO HAVE LITTLE INFLUENCE ON MILITARY. UNLESS ANKARA ISSUES SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS DOUBT WHETHER WE WILL BE ABLE OFFER REQUISITE PROTECTION TO OUR CITIZENS. CRAWFORD.

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